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690 April 15, 1904

CHILE.

Epidemic bubonic plague at Antofogasta.

Santiago, Chile, April 12, 1904.

Extensive epidemic bubonic plague at Antofogasta.

WILSON, Minister.

CHINA.

Reports from Hongkong—Inspection of vessels—Plague-infected rats— Smallpox.

Passed Assistant Surgeon White reports February 21 and 28, as follows:

During the week ended February 20, 1904, 4 vessels left this port for ports of the United States; 473 persons were examined for the quarantinable and the nonquarantinable but communicable diseases; 377 crew and 17 steerage passengers were bathed and their clothing was disinfected. The shipment of cargo, small animals, and live stock, as well as ships' supplies, was supervised. There was 1 plague death on February 19 (Chinese). The rat return showed that 135 rats had been captured and 5 were infected with plague. During 1903, in Hongkong, 54,738 rats were caught, 3,026 being plague infected, and in Kowloon, 46,309 were caught, 716 being infected. The two lines of the Nippon Yusen Kaisha, the one to Seattle, the other to Australia via Manila, and the Toyo Rishen Kaisha line to Manila direct, and the line to San Francisco have, together with the Eastern and Australian line and the China Navigation line, both to Australia via Manila, been temporarily discontinued, but it is reported that other vessels will be chartered and put on the runs.

During the week ended February 28, 9 vessels sailed for United States ports; 1,066 persons were examined for the quarantinable and communicable infectious diseases; 652 crew and 276 steerage passengers were bathed and their clothing was disinfected; 21 aliens were further medically examined and 6 were rejected. Shipment of all cargo and ship supplies was supervised. During the week 5 cases of enteric fever, with no mortality; 2 fatal cases of smallpox were reported, and no cases of plague. The last case of cholera was reported during the week ended October 31, 1903; the last case of

plague February 19, 1904.

Emigrants recommended for rejection.

Number of emigrants per steamship Coptic recommended February

23 for rejection: For Honolulu, 1; for San Francisco, 4.

One emigrant per steamship *Tacoma* for Tacoma, recommended February 26 for rejection.

Reports from Shanghai—Smallpox—Increase in mortality from tuberculosis.

Acting Assistant Surgeon Ransom reports, March 2 and 9, as follows:

During the week ended February 27, 1904, 1 original and 2 supplemental bills of health were issued. One vessel, 40 crew, 24 cabin, and